










Office of Public Instruction

Accreditation Division

The Accreditation Division assists, reviews, and monitors 834 K-12 schools and eight teacher education programs at Montana's postsecondary institutions for compliance with school accreditation standards and other rules. The division assists schools, districts, and teacher education programs to align standards, curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional development. This division's functions include:

-  **Implements accreditation standards adopted and required by the Board of Public Education**
-  **Processes and evaluates the annual accreditation status of all 834 Montana schools**
-  **Operates OPI's electronic Annual Data Collection system to review and recommend accreditation status for all schools**
-  **Reports annually on the accreditation status of all schools to the Board of Public Education, public, and the news media**
-  **Reviews and approves improvement plans for schools not meeting state accreditation standards (in 2005-2006, 197 schools or 23%)**
-  **Conducts on-site reviews to determine accreditation recommendations to the Board of Public Education**
-  **Provides regional assistance in the development and monitoring the effectiveness of the Five-Year Comprehensive Education Plan (5YCEP) required of all school districts by the Board of Public Education**
-  **Reviews and distributes the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards for all professional education units at Montana colleges and universities; conducts on-site reviews to determine approval recommendations to the Board of Public Education**
-  **Completes the Montana State Report Card on Quality of Teacher Preparation as required by the U.S. Department of Education ESEA Higher Education Act, Title II**



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